

Attorney Docket No.: VRTY-001/00US
Application Serial No.: 09/851,640
Page 2

Amendments to the Claims.

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims.

Listing of Claims.

1. (Currently amended) A method of parametric group processing to identify relevant documents without implementing parametric queries in a structured query language, the method comprising:

forming a parametric index from an indexed database[[],] by arranging categorical attributes as fields of said parametric index, each of said [[using]] categorical attributes [[to]] referencing any number subset of elements where said categorical attributes are qualitative parameters;

specifying a first parametric group corresponding to a first subset of elements in said parametric index, said first subset derivable by cross-multiplying a set of one or more categorical attributes from a first field with another set of one or more categorical attributes from a second field;

identifying text including at least one categorical attribute;

specifying a second parametric group corresponding to a second subset of elements in said parametric index, said second subset derivable by cross-multiplying a set of said at least one categorical attribute from either said first field or said second field with another set of one or more categorical attributes from said first field, said second field or any other field;

merging said first subset of elements of said first parametric group and said second subset of elements of said second parametric group to produce a merged parametric group; and

extracting a parametric result from said merged parametric group,

wherein said parametric result specifies a set of documents as identified by said first and said second subsets of elements.

Attorney Docket No.: VRTY-001/00US
Application Serial No.: 09/851,640
Page 3

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein specifying includes listing a parametric group, and identifying said text further comprises receiving a query.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein identifying said text further comprises receiving text search results, and specifying includes deriving [[a]] said second parametric group from said text search results.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 wherein specifying includes mapping said text search results into said parametric index to identify a parametric group for subsequent parametric group processing to identify other documents.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising identifying said fields as BucketSets, said first and said second subsets of elements as Buckets, said categorical attributes as FieldEnums and said elements as including document identifications, specifying includes assigning every element in a bucket array to distinct bucket set parents to produce a structured bucket array.
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising storing said parametric index in a primary memory local to a central processing unit. 5 further comprising taking the cross of all elements in said structured bucket array to produce a parametric group.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said merging includes taking the union of said first parametric group and said second parametric group to produce said merged parametric group.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein extracting includes collecting document identifications for said merged parametric group.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising forming the union of said document identifications to produce said parametric result.

Attorney Docket No.: VRTY-001/00US
Application Serial No.: 09/851,640
Page 4

10. (Currently Amended) A method of parametric group processing to identify relevant documents without implementing parametric queries in a structured query language, the method comprising:

performing a text search to produce text search results including at least one categorical attribute;

mapping said text search results into a parametric index to identify a first parametric group, said parametric index using categorical attributes to reference a subset of elements where said categorical attributes are qualitative parameters including categorical attributes arranged as fields of said parametric index, each of said categorical attributes referencing any number of elements where said categorical attributes are qualitative parameters, said first parametric group corresponding to a first subset of elements in said parametric index, said first subset derivable by cross-multiplying a set of at least one categorical attribute that corresponds to at least one field with another set of one or more categorical attributes from said at least one field or any other field;

merging said first subset of elements of said first parametric group with a second subset of elements corresponding to a second parametric group in said parametric index to produce a merged parametric group; and

extracting a parametric result from said merged parametric group, wherein said parametric result specifies a set of documents based on said first subset of elements and said second subset of elements.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said merging includes taking the union of said first parametric group and said second parametric group to produce said merged parametric group.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein extracting includes collecting document identifications for said merged parametric group.

Attorney Docket No.: VRTY-001/00US
Application Serial No.: 09/851,640
Page 5

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising forming the union of said document identifications to produce said parametric result.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for executing instructions by a central processing unit to identify relevant document identifications in a primary memory local to said central processing unit, the computer readable medium comprising:

a first set of instructions to form a parametric index from an indexed database by arranging categorical attributes as fields of said parametric index, each of said categorical attributes referencing any number subset of elements where said categorical attributes are qualitative parameters specify a first parametric group and a second parametric group corresponding to elements in a parametric index, said parametric index using categorical attributes to reference at least one of said elements where said categorical attributes are qualitative parameters;

a second set of instructions to specify a first parametric group corresponding to a first subset of elements in said parametric index, said first subset derivable by cross-multiplying a set of one or more categorical attributes from a first field with another set of one or more categorical attributes from a second field;

a third set of instructions to specify a second parametric group corresponding to a second subset of elements in said parametric index, said second subset derivable by cross-multiplying a set of at least one categorical attribute from either said first field or said second field with another set of one or more categorical attributes from said first field, said second field or any other field;

a fourth set of instructions to combine said first parametric group said second parametric group to produce a merged parametric group where said second set of instructions are independent of a query language; and

a [[third]] fifth set of instructions to extract a parametric result from said merged parametric group, wherein said parametric result specifies a set of documents, said fifth set of instructions being independent of a query language.

Attorney Docket No.: VRTY-001/00US
Application Serial No.: 09/851,640
Page 6

15. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein said [[first]] second set of instructions facilitate the listing of said first parametric group and said second parametric group.

16. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 14 including instructions to derive [[a]] said second parametric group from text search results.

17. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 16 including instructions to map said text search results into said parametric index to identify a parametric group for subsequent parametric group processing to identify other documents.

18. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein said second third set of instructions take the union of said first parametric group and said second parametric group to produce said merged parametric group.

19. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein said [[third]] fifth set of instructions collect document identifications for said merged parametric group.

20. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 19 wherein said [[third]] fifth set of instructions form a union between said document identifications to produce said parametric result.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein merging further comprises performing a logical operation that is independent of a query language.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein merging further comprises performing a logical operation that is independent of a query language.